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THE ORGANIZED FARMER

November, 1956

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Agriculture in Finland

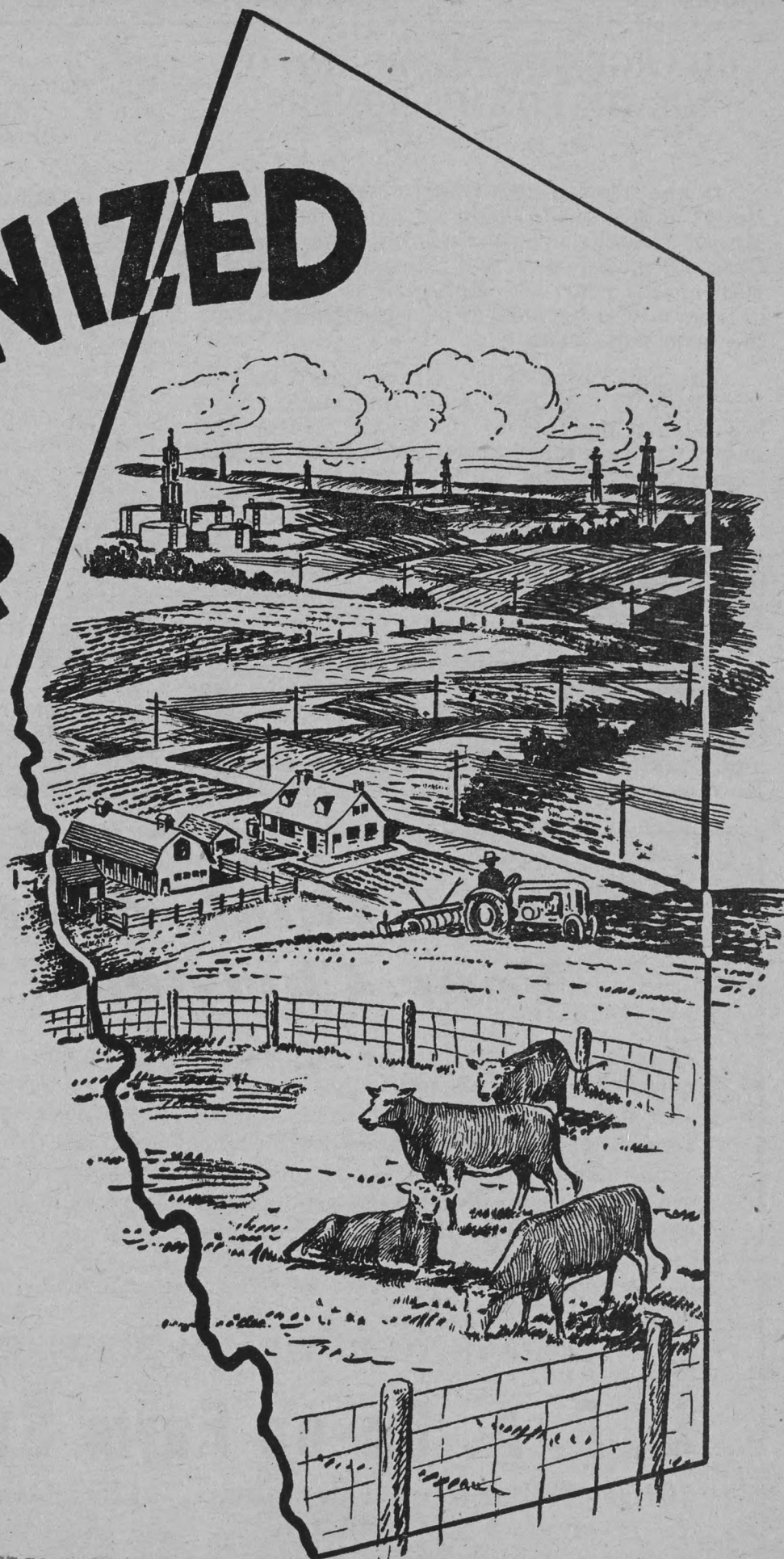
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GENERAL SCIENCES

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1956

CHANGES IN THE BOARD OF GRAIN COMMISSIONERS

By Mr. A. W. Platt

It has been announced, by the Hon. C. D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, that Mr. D. J. McKenzie, chairman of the Board of Grain Commissioners, will retire as of December 10th of this year. Mr. McKenzie is well known in farm circles because of past associations with the farm movement.

The new chief of the Grain Board will be Mr. Roy W. Milner, who for many years has been a member of the Board. He is well known in grain and farm circles across western Canada. He is perhaps best known to farm people as transport controller, a position he resigned following the heated session last July in the commons agricultural committee over the controversial box-car allocation. Mr. Milner brings to his new position a wealth of technical information on the grain trade.

The new member of the Board of Grain Commissioners is George N. McConnell, vice-president of Manitoba Pool Elevators. Mr. McConnell was born on July 15, 1894, at McConnell, Manitoba, where his father homesteaded. He received his public school education at Mc-

Connell and later attended Manitoba Agricultural College. A successful farmer in both grain and livestock production, he has specialized in the breeding of Aberdeen Angus cattle.

Mr. McConnell has been actively associated with farm organization since his youth. Elected to the board of directors of Manitoba Pool Elevators in 1931 he has served that organization as vice-president since 1940. For the past 16 years he has been a director of Canadian Co-operative Wheat Producers Ltd. and, for the same period a director of both Canadian Pool Agencies Ltd. and Pool Insurance Company. Mr. McConnell has also been a director of Canadian Livestock Co-operative Western Ltd. for a number of years.

He was a Canadian delegate to the 1948 conference of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers, a world farm organization, held in Paris, France.

Mr. Stanley Lobtson, a farmer from Saskatchewan, completes the personnel of the Board of Grain Commissioners.

The Farmers' Union of Alberta wishes to commend Mr. Howe for the appointing of another farmer to this important Commission. It is most important that farmers acceptable to farm organizations should be selected to guard the interests of the farm community.

Time to Think About Your Christmas List

Choosing Christmas gifts is easy and you save money too when you make your selection from lines carried by your U.F.A. Co-op Farm Supply Department. There are such items as refrigerators, washers, floor polishers, vacuum cleaners, and food freezers. Smaller items are electrical appliances such as toasters, irons, clocks, fans, heating pads, coffee makers, electric razors, radios and food mixers. Any of these would make a gift of which you would be proud. See the secretary of your U.F.A. Co-op local or your local agent.

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 Robert Davidson, Delburne

E. G. Armstrong, Parkland; Secretary—Robert Davidson, Delburne

President's Report

During the past month a good part of my time has been spent out in the country, attending meetings, helping with organizational work in connection with "F.U.A. Week." Eight of the fourteen districts have been visited.

In general I have found organizational plans well advanced and in good shape. This has been due to the fine work of Bill Logan, provincial organizer, the directors, the sub-directors and other district officials. However, there are weak spots. There are areas where the sub-directors, for various reasons, sometimes legitimate and sometimes not, have fallen down on the job. In such cases, when the director or our office is informed the situation can be handled, but if no one knows about the trouble the drive will suffer in that area. I am, however, especially pleased with the energy and enthusiasm of our directors. All I have visited are doing a fine job and, while I have had less first-hand information it appears that most other district officials are also doing their full share to make "F.U.A. Week" a success.

According to what officials have told me,

and judging by my own observations, I think we can anticipate an increase in membership this year. However, this increase will not likely be uniform all over the province. There are some areas where we will probably show a decline. These are largely spots where the people have been particularly unfortunate due to crop failure and where many people, including F.U.A. leaders, will have to leave the farm at least temporarily to take work in other fields. In some of these areas it is going to be difficult to maintain F.U.A. organization without a lot of outside help.

The shortage of farm labor and the inability to pay for what labor may be available is also making it difficult for many of our people to devote the time necessary to keep local organization at a high level.

However, these local difficulties, serious as they are, seem to be more than off-set by a greater interest on the part of the farmers in more fortunate districts.

Perhaps the most discouraging event in recent weeks has been statements by various cabinet ministers, including Mr. Gardiner and

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Across The Secretary's Desk



By Mrs. Pansy Molen

A.C.W.W. Conference

We have recently had word that the A.C.W.W. conference in Ceylon has been indefinitely postponed owing to international unrest and the impossibility of transport. It was with great reluctance that this step was taken but it was felt it would be impossible to carry out the present arrangements.

F.U.A. Week

It is too early yet to have any definite reports on the membership drive. We have heard from a few locals, and these have all had a successful canvass. We wish to thank the United Grain Growers, Alberta Wheat Pool and U.F.A. Co-operative Ltd. for the wonderful support they have given us in helping to advertise the drive.

Annual Convention

We hope that all locals made plans to send at least one delegate to the Annual Convention, Dec. 10th to 14th at the MacDonald Hotel in Edmonton. This is where the policy of the organization is decided, and all locals should have a delegate there to express the local's point of view.

For guest speakers we will have Hon. E. C. Manning, Premier of Alberta; a member of the Federal Cabinet; Dr. John Laurie of the Department of Indian Affairs; and Mr. W. B. Baker, Chairman of the Saskatchewan Royal Commission of Agriculture and Rural Life. A dance and social evening has been planned for Tuesday evening. See you at the Convention

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(Continued from Page 3)

Mr. Howe, that indicate they are not prepared to admit the assistance for agriculture. What do we have to do to convince them? Apparently they are not prepared to accept the significance of their own statistics. We have already presented a number of briefs on this matter. Shortly we will be presenting another, jointly with the Farm Implement Council, representing local unions of the automobile workers and steel workers of the farm implement industry. This

brief will not only point out the economic conditions in agriculture but will relate them to the fact that factory sales of farm implements have dropped 42% in two years and that an estimated 10,000 jobs have been lost by Canadian workers in this industry alone.

Then at the Dominion-Provincial Conference in early December, we in the farm unions, will make the strongest case we possibly can for national policies that will assist agriculture.

Your directors are already making personal representations to members of parliament and other influential people. I have hopes that this will have an effect. As yet the individuals are not letting their representatives hear from them. A letter from even half our farm members to your local member of parliament, or to the minister of agriculture, telling him how things are on your farm would work wonders I am sure.

Your Board will be asked to consider further action at their next meeting to impress upon the government the necessity of action.

I had the opportunity to spend a short time at the Banff School of Fine Arts Leadership Course. I was impressed with the quality of instruction that was given and by the fine young men and women present. Many are prominent in F.U.A. work. Let us see that at both the local, district and provincial levels we utilize to the full the natural talents and training of these fine young people.

Four Master Farm Families Receive Honors for 1956

Alberta's four master farm families for 1956 have been named by the provincial department of agriculture. Three are from central and northern Alberta points, and the fourth from southern Alberta.

The award winners are:

- John Rozmahel family of Viking.
- A. D. Fraser family of Teepee Creek.
- Alfred Rose family of Ricinus.
- Wilfred McGillivray family of Coaldale.

Each family receives a \$1,000 cash award, an engraved plaque and a master farm family nameplate for display on the entrance to the farmstead.

The F.U.A. wishes to extend our congratulations to the families on the winning of these awards.

PROBLEMS OF CANADIAN AGRICULTURE AND THE FARM IMPLEMENT INDUSTRY

A brief has been prepared for presentation to the Federal Government by the Farm Unions and the Farm Implement council, representing local unions of the Automobile Workers and the Steel Workers in the farm implement industry. This brief summarizes the present economic status of the farm implement industry and of the farmer very well indeed. For example, it points out that the gross selling value at the plant of products manufactured by the farm implement industry fell from an all-time peak of almost 260 million dollars in 1952 to 119 million in 1954, or a decline of 42% to reach the lowest level since 1946. This in turn has affected the other industries which supply material for the production of farm implements. The value of materials used by the industry declined by 39% from almost 110 million dollars in 1952 to less than 67 million dollars in 1954. This drop of 43 million in purchases by the industry must have affected thousands of additional jobs in steel mills and other supplying industries. It is a reasonable estimate that at least 10,000 jobs have been lost for Canadian workers, directly or indirectly, as the result of the decline in the farm implement industry alone.

Similarly it is pointed out that the price index of commodities and service used by the farmers has increased, from January 1951 to April 1956, by 12.8% and during the same period the index of farm prices on agricultural products has decreased by 19.6%. It is also interesting to note that, during this time when prices received by the farmers fell so drastically, the price of food to the consumer actually increased 0.6%. The recommendations that this brief makes, both in regard to agriculture and the farm implement industry, are of considerable interest. The recommendations in regard to the farm program have been quoted verbatim as follows:-

1. Establish a Definite Farm Program

The most obvious principle is that we must have a definite farm program with a definite goal of lifting agriculture out of the slough of despond in which it has been allowed to become so deeply mired. An agricultural population as deeply depressed as that of Canada today is not only a stain on the moral conscience of the country, but a threat to the strength and stability of the whole economy. One of the basic causes of agriculture's present troubles is that conditions have been allowed to drift steadily from bad to worse. Once in awhile, when some specific problem such as the plight of the wheat farmers becomes intolerable, some small and limited remedial measure is taken. But we need far more than that. We need a broadly based overall program, boldly planned and vigorously carried out,

to restore our agricultural producers to their proper places in the national economy.

"We must set as our goal the object of giving to agriculture an equitable share of the national income, of assuring stability of income, and making available to farmers the means of increasing the efficiency and productivity of their labours. Some of the steps to that end might well include the following:

(a) Action to protect farm prices at adequate levels, so that farmers can plan production and purchase needed equipment without fear of another collapse in prices. Not only should there be a solid floor under farm prices, but the floor should be established on the basis of a parity price system which would relate the price the farmer gets to the cost of what he must buy to operate his farm. Prices should be guaranteed sufficiently far in advance so that farmers can safely plan at least a year ahead. Parliament has given lip service to this principle in the Agricultural Support Act, passed in 1946. Act says:

"The Board shall endeavor to ensure adequate and stable returns for agriculture by promoting orderly adjustment from war to peace conditions and shall endeavour to secure a fair relationship between the returns from agriculture and those from other occupations."

It is high time we put the principle into practice.

(b) More vigorous marketing policies, with a greater measure of democratic participation by farmers through their own organizations. Both in domestic and export marketing, farmers should have a greater voice in determining policies on which their economic welfare depends. Their own co-operative marketing agencies should be given greater scope and power to stand up to the economic power of the monster corporations with which they must deal at home. More vigorous and more imaginative policies must be followed to restore foreign markets. We must be prepared to accommodate ourselves to the needs of foreign customers by greater willingness to accept their currencies, by provision of long-term loans, barter plans and similar methods. We should also be prepared to give far more generous assistance than we have done in the past to undernourished countries, on the basis of a straight gift from the Canadian Government and the people where necessary, as a part of our share in the world fight against poverty, starvation and communism.

(c) Stricter action against control by the huge corporations which traditionally have dominated both the processing of farm products and the supplying of farmers' needs. There should be constant investigation into price policies and business practices of the sort which permit farm prices to be forced down with no equivalent reduction in the price the

(Continued on Page 6)

PROBLEMS OF CANADIAN AGRICULTURE AND THE FARM IMPLEMENT INDUSTRY

(Continued from Page 5)

Canadian consumer pays for farm products, or which permit farm implement prices to climb while both the companies' labour costs per dollar of production and the farmers' income with which to buy farm implements are falling. The Government should also introduce legislation to require all companies operating in Canada to publish full annual financial statements as to their Canadian operations, so that the public may have information on which to pass judgement on their price and profit policies.

(d) Adequate credit facilities at low interest rates. Ample credit is even more essential now than before, because the years of falling income have drained many farmers' capital resources. The practice of charging bank rates of interest on government guaranteed loans is completely unjustifiable. Loans for farm equipment, for other farm improvements, and to enable older farmers to retire and young farmers to set up for themselves should be made directly by government agencies on a non-profit basis."

The recommendations in regard to the industry itself, for lack of space, must be summarized briefly here. The first major recommendation is that in addition to restoring the health of agriculture a real effort be made to develop world markets for farm machinery. It is suggested that real possibilities exist in certain under-developed countries for the sale of Canadian manufactured farm implements. The second major recommendation is that the farm implement industry be encouraged to diversify. In order that this may be done it is suggested that certain changes in sales tax laws must be made. A third major recommendation is that a permanent farm implement industry committee should be established with representation from farmers, labourers and the industry and government. It is believed that this committee could bring the viewpoints of all interests together and be of real service to all concerned. A fourth major recommendation involves changes in unemployment particularly during periods of long lay-offs. And the final recommendation is that special aid be given to distressed areas of our economy such as the farm implement industry.

I believe that this will be the first time that farm organizations and certain labour groups have made joint representation on federal matters. Such representation on provincial affairs has, of course, occurred previously.

It's been said that the clothes which keep a man looking his best are those worn by girls at the beach.

SHOULD YOU REFREEZE?

By Mrs. V. Macdonald

There is a widespread belief that meat is more perishable after it has been frozen and thawed and thus, for safety, must be used more promptly than "fresh" meat. Actually, tests have disproved this and in fact indicate that spoilage may be slower in frozen meat than in unfrozen meat. In any case, the homemaker need not feel that for safety she must cook frozen meat as soon as it is thawed if she keeps it in a good refrigerator, says Mrs. V. G. Macdonald, supervisor of Women's Extension Services, Alberta Department of Agriculture. Nor does refreezing thawed meat materially affect the quality, except that it may be somewhat drier due to loss of juices. Meat which has thawed, but has not been unwrapped will reabsorb some of the escaped juices if the package is turned upside down when replacing in freezer. So if the homemaker finds she cannot use all the defrosted meat in the package she may rewrap and refreeze for use another time.

This does not mean that one can be careless with meat that has been frozen as it, like fresh meat, will become unfit for use if stored in a warm room or left too long in the refrigerator.

What about refreezing fruits and vegetables? For highest quality, keep frozen foods frozen until defrosted for use. Both fruits and vegetables may be refrozen if they have not completely thawed or if they have been thawed for a short time and have been held in a refrigerator. However, thawing and refreezing usually results in poor quality and loss of flavor. Refrozen fruits become soft and mushy and only suitable for use in cooking. Refrozen vegetables may toughen. If vegetables have thawed and warmed up to a temperature above 45 degrees F. do not refreeze, as they spoil rapidly and may be unsafe. Fruits if thawed and warmed to a temperature above 45 degrees F. are likely to ferment. While slight fermentation of fruit may change or spoil flavor, it does not make them unsafe to eat.

No Mistake

"I think my step-father doesn't like me very much," a little boy confided to his visiting uncle.

Trying to make the best of a bad situation, the uncle scoffed: "Go on, Tommy. Whatever makes you think that?"

"Well," said Tommy, "every time we go swimming, he throws me into the deepest water in the river."

"But you're such a good swimmer," joshed the uncle; "there's nothing wrong with that."

"Maybe not," conceded the lad, "but I find it so hard fighting my way out of the bag he ties me in."

Monthly Letter from

Alberta Livestock Co-operative Limited

Dear Friends:

Did you see our outline last month concerning the competition we are having? Just in case you missed it we'll give you the details again this month.

In order to qualify you or your immediate family should be hog producers or hog feeders. You don't need to be loaded with knowledge, we'd just like to see some reasonably clear thinking put down on paper. What you actually know is not as important to us as what you think.

The subject matter is divided into three divisions and you will need to write on all of the following:

- (1) In 100 words or less write what you know about the sale and marketing of hogs in Alberta. Who are the buyers and who do they represent.
- (2) In 100 words or less give your impression as to how and where the prices for hogs are established.
- (3) In 150 words or less write whether or not the present methods for the marketing and pricing of hogs is satisfactory and state what you like or do not like about the present methods. If you believe the system could be improved or changed state your opinion as to alternative methods and how you would apply them.

Entries must be mailed not later than February 28, 1957 and addressed as follows:

Contest Department,
ALBERTA LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED
Western Stock Yards,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Prizes to winning entrants will be:

1st — \$100.00; 2nd — \$50.00; 3rd — \$25.00.

To stimulate interest in areas where Co-operative Livestock Shipping Associations are in operation if any patrons of those Associations submit winning entries duplicate prizes will be issued to the Association.

In addition, if winning entries are submitted by members of F.U.A. Locals, duplicate prizes will be issued to the Local or Locals of which the winners are members.

The prize list will therefore total \$525.00.

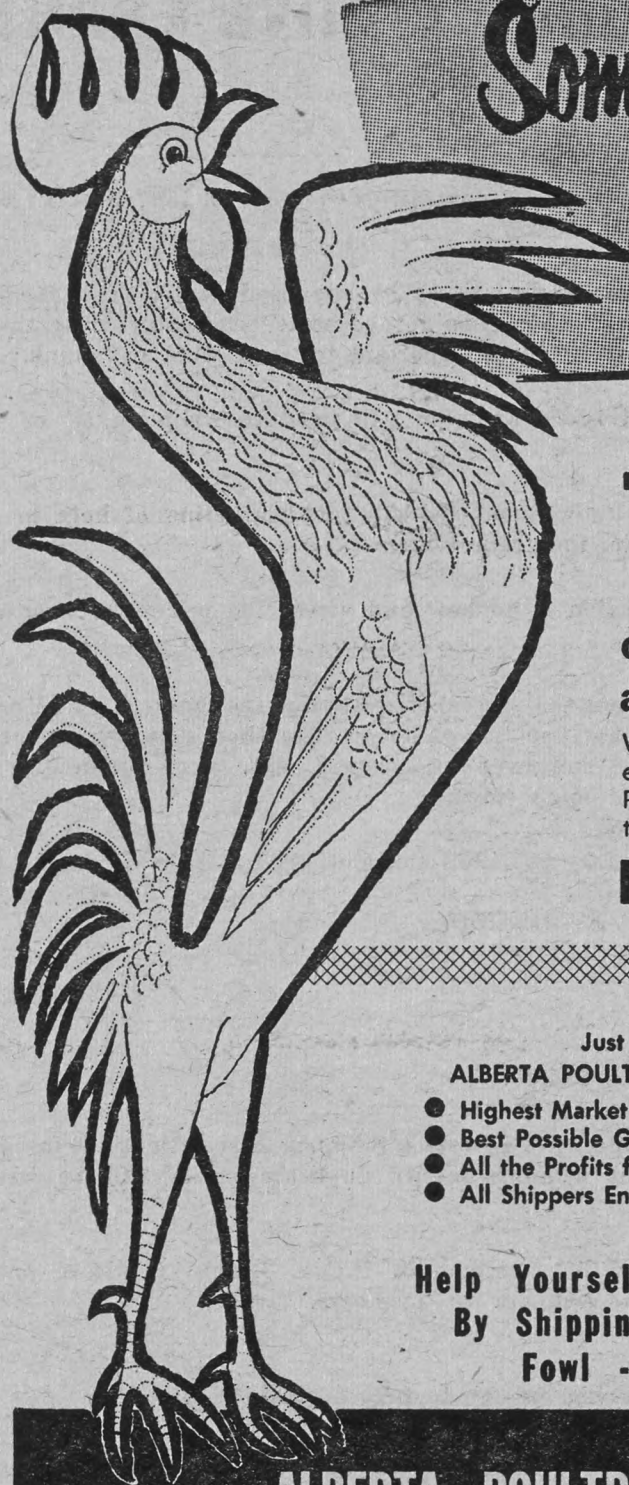
Do you think it's too tough or is it interesting enough to take a crack at it?

Sincerely yours,

ALBERTA LIVESTOCK CO-OPERATIVE LIMITED,

Geo. Winkelaar, general manager.

(Advertisement)



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U.G.G. Fifty Years of Service

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the United Grain Growers Ltd. At Sintaluta, Saskatchewan on Sept. 6, 1906 a group of farmers met to see what could be done to improve the handling of their own grain. At this meeting the idea was born to form a Grain Growers Grain Company, which later became the United Grain Growers Ltd.

Membership in the new company at the outset was relatively small; paid up capital being only \$5,000. Farmers soon recognized the advantages of dealing with their own company and widespread support was soon forthcoming which has resulted in the U.G.G. becoming one of the largest and most successful business enterprises in Canada today, with an approximate membership of 50,000. Today more than half of western Canada's vast annual harvest is handled through this farmer-owned co-operative elevator system.

The United Grain Growers was born of necessity at the turn of the century as great new acreages came under cultivation and wheat suddenly became important. Along with the increased production came the major problems of transportation and marketing. Faced with rugged pioneer conditions and long distances to market, it was only natural that farmers should seek to improve methods of marketing and grain handling.

The venture of the Saskatchewan farmers soon caught the attention of those in Alberta. By 1909 shipments of grain had increased to such an extent that a branch office was opened at Calgary to provide better service for Alberta producers.

In 1913 at the annual convention of the U.F.A.,

Alberta farmers decided to organize a grain company of their own - the Alberta Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company. In 1917 this company together with the farmer-owned companies in Manitoba and Saskatchewan amalgamated under the name of United Grain Growers Ltd.

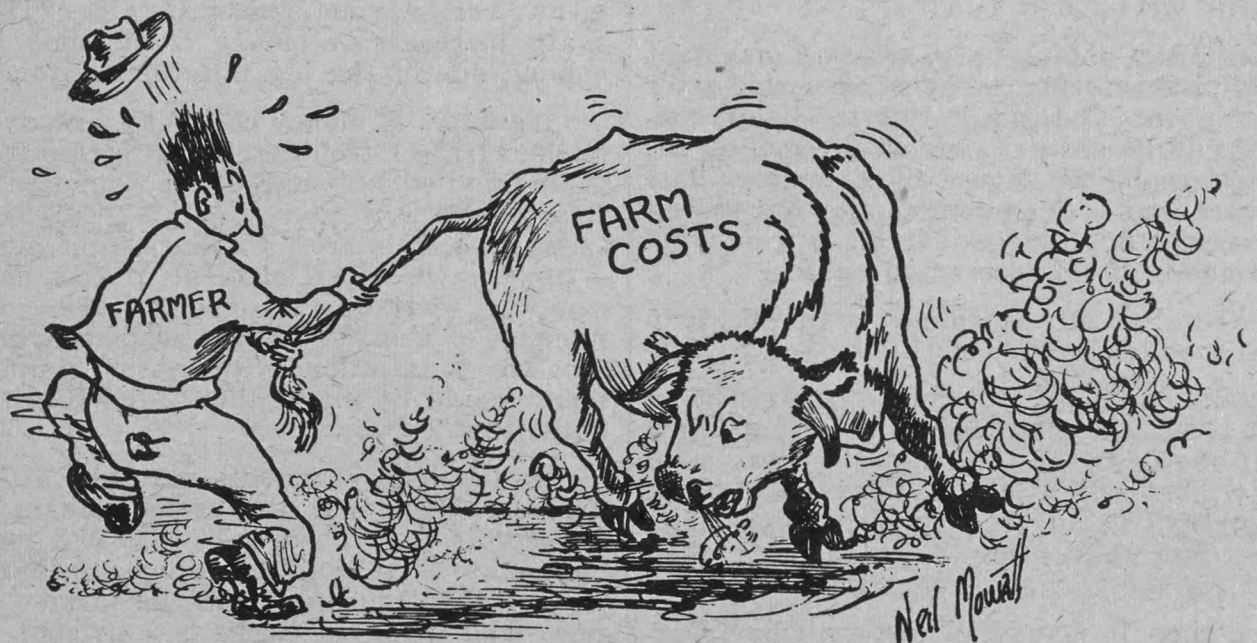
Farm control of the U.G.G. is ensured through the some 300 farm delegates representing the shareholders, who meet annually to review company operations, decide policy and elect directors from each of the prairie provinces.

Over the years they not only carried on a most efficient grain handling and marketing organization, but have made outright grants to farm organizations and for agricultural research of over \$600,000. Patronage dividends paid by the company since its inception now exceed \$16,000,000 and shareholders equity stands at \$10,000,000 representing slightly over \$2.00 for every \$1.00 invested.

Since 1948, the company has been very ably guided by Mr. J. E. Brownlee, Q.C., former Premier of Alberta, who succeeded the late R. S. Law who was president from 1930-1948.

As a service to its many members and to agriculture in general, since 1907 the U.G.G. has published "The Country Guide" formerly the "Grain Growers Guide" which was the first official publication to be owned by the farmers co-operative in western Canada - a paper which can be found in most every farm home today.

The Farmers' Union of Alberta recognizing the contribution that the U.G.G. has made to western agriculture over the years, wishes to congratulate them on their 50th anniversary for a job well done, and wish them continued success in the years ahead.



.... AND HE CAN'T LET GO!

The Organized Farmer

Editor A. W. PLATT

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EDITORIALS

FARMERS HAVE PARITY

According to press reports Agriculture Minister Gardiner has said farmers are receiving parity prices today. He told the Saskatchewan Liberal Association convention in Regina, November the third, "We ought to have parity. If you mean by that costs of production in relation to returns we have it now."

Robert McCubbin, parliamentary assistant to the Minister, during the question period after addressing the Ontario Farmers' Union convention, said he did not support the motion for parity prices in the House of Commons last spring because it was a phony motion introduced by a lawyer. But, he added, he will support such a motion if it is presented again.

Incidentally, Mr. Gardiner is too busy to come and address our convention.

Certainly one of the things farmers need in these times is a good laugh and perhaps they will get one from the profound utterance cited above. Others with a less well developed sense of humor will be angered by such goings-on. I must confess that I am more angered than amused but most of all I am sorry.

At a time in Canadian history when Canadian statemen have made such internationally recognized contributions to world peace under-

standing; at a time when national policies have been devised to enable Canada to industrialize on a scale, and at a rate, never before realized; at a time when Canadian farmers desperately need at least some hope if real action can not be provided; at a time when leadership in agriculture is so vital to the welfare of Canada we get statements from our agricultural leaders like the above. It is particularly sad to see a man like Mr. Gardiner, who has done so much for agriculture in the past, apparently unable to grapple with present-day problems. As for his parliamentary assistant, even though his vote for parity prices will be welcome, perhaps the farm people could be persuaded to spare him from the rigors of public life and allow him to return to other pursuits for which he, perhaps, has more talent.

Surely the Liberal government, which has developed outstanding leaders in other fields, could somewhere amongst its large following find a team that could and would give some leadership and help in agriculture.

HARD MONEY

Certainly inflation is damaging to agriculture. The so-called cost price squeeze has reduced net farm returns to a very low level. Farm people would welcome a halt to the continually rising prices of the things they have to buy. If the Bank of Canada's action in increasing interest rates would result in curbing inflation, then perhaps it could be justified. However, even among the experts on such matters there is doubt as to how effective these means are. As one writer puts it, "The very sharp increases in money costs alone are becoming one of the big inflationary factors."

Increases in money costs has already added to the farmers' troubles. Bank interest rates on grain handled on behalf of the Canadian Wheat Board have now risen to 4½%. This is a fantastic rate of interest for the use of money on a project where all element of risk has been removed. Certainly no one can argue that financing of Canada's grain crop contributes in any way to inflationary pressures. Similar comments could be made about other agricultural activities.

Restrictions on credit will not affect big business. They will always be able to get all the credit they need and pass the increased costs on to the ultimate consumer, including the farmer. Small business and the farmer are the ones who will find credit is restricted. It is a tragic paradox that in an attempt to control credit the Bank of Canada should succeed in

hitting the one industry which, far from enjoying the lush fruits of inflation, are in fact already in the trough of deflation.

This is but another example of national policies that ignore the needs of agriculture.

AID TO AGRICULTURE

Some Canadian politicians continue to plead poverty as an excuse for Canada not having a national assistance policy for agriculture. I wonder if they would admit that Canada is as prosperous as France, or if Canadian agriculture is as important to Canada's future as French agriculture is to France's future. According to the news reports here is what France plans to do.

The French government has just introduced a new rural investment plan to run from 1957 to 1961. One aim is to produce an exportable wheat surplus of 110,000,000 bushels a year. Aiding this will be a subsidy to allow the wheat to move competitively in the foreign markets. The cost will be \$92,000,000 a year for wheat alone and \$400,000,000 when other agricultural commodities are included.

I suppose, again according to the above mentioned politicians, that the proper thing to do is for enough Canadian wheat growers to quietly go broke so that we will have 110,000,000 bushels less wheat to export and still restore proper equilibrium. The job is going to be to find the necessary wheat growers to co-operate in this deal. How long are we going to tolerate this placid — "It's too bad but nothing can be done" philosophy? Isn't it about time we started to look for people in political life who have some confidence in the future of agriculture and who will give some of the dynamic leadership in this field that other Canadians are giving in the field of external affairs and in the building up of Canadian industry?

A Letter to All Delegates

When I became your president Mr. Gus Malchow, of Stavely, drew to my attention the following quotation from Spencer's Essays on Manners and Fashions, "Not an organization of any kind — political, religious, literary, philanthropic — but what by its evermultiplying regulations, its accumulating wealth, its yearly addition of officers and the creeping into it of patronage and party feeling, eventually loses its original spirit and sinks into a mere lifeless

mechanism worked with a view to private ends — a mechanism which not merely fails of its first purpose but is a positive hindrance to it."

I have kept this on my desk and I go over it once a month or so as a warning to watch for those things in the Farmers' Union and in my own work that would keep it from becoming a lifeless mechanism. You delegates will be in complete charge of the organization for five days in December. You will make many important decisions during the time that will have a profound effect on the future of our organization. I am therefore passing the above warning on to you.

You will reaffirm our objectives and review the policy of our Union. Your time to deal with these matters is short. Be sure you spend that time on really important matters and not on those of a trivial nature. Many so-called small things are important and deserve our consideration. Sometimes small jobs done are our most important achievements. However, many of these lesser matters can be handled by your executive and office staff and others by your board of directors, but only you can lay down the broad lines of policy that your officials must follow. Let us debate the issues before the convention vigorously and fully but let us always be sure we are debating issues and not arguing amongst ourselves. Above all do not fear new concepts and new ideas. We are living in a changing world. Our objective is parity for agriculture, but changing conditions are always making it imperative that we change our course of action according to the obstacles we are facing at the moment. We are like a man climbing a mountain, the top of which is parity. As we go up we must detour around impassable cliffs but we must always keep in mind that we are going around obstacles, to continue the climb and not just going round and round the mountain. We must also be sure that when we arrive at a smooth ledge that we remember that it is a ledge and not the peak we have reached. There can be no rest, no lessening of effort until we do arrive at the peak. When that day comes we will probably find that there is another peak in the distance that must be climbed as well.

You will not be asked to give detailed instructions to your board on the finances of the union but you do decide financial policy, and finances are most important. Bear in mind these things. Nothing can cripple an organization faster than the lack of money. Those organizations, and particularly farm organizations, whose budgets go up and down with fluctuating membership and which have no reserves are in a most vulnerable position. It is most important

that we maintain adequate reserves. On the other hand it is not the purpose of our union to accumulate wealth but, rather, always bearing in mind the necessity of reserves, to use the money at our disposal to further the objectives of our organization.

You will elect your leaders for the following year at your convention. It may seem harsh and heartless but, for the sake of the union, we must always bear in mind that we should take all we can from a man and when we have taken what he can give discard him for another who has a contribution to make. In looking for leadership I think you should look first for sincerity of purpose. Is a candidate for office sincerely interested in the welfare of farm people and in the objectives of our organization? You can judge him by his actions, by talking with him and by his background. Best of all, what do his neighbours think? A man who is not supported by his own community should be looked upon with some suspicion. Above all else, avoid as you would the plague, the man whom you suspect of seeking office to use the union to further his own political party. Participation in politics is an honourable thing which does not disqualify a man for office in our organization but we must be sure before we entrust office to any man that he intends to put all his efforts into realizing the aims and objectives of the Farmers' Union. Skill and knowledge are desirable qualities in a leader but are secondary to sincerity and ability to work with others in furthering of our objectives and to stand firmly against those who oppose us. Fearlessness, strength of character, pride in himself, his organization and in farming, all these things we want in our leaders. Finally, in most cases organizations succeed best where leadership is divided between those who have age and ex-

perience and those who have youth and vigour. History has shown that if we do not provide opportunities for leadership amongst our younger people who have ability then they will transfer their desires and their skills to other organizations who will give them a chance to express them.

Farmers Should Support Their Organization

By Camrose Canadian, Nov. 8, 1956

The Alberta farmers should align themselves within their own organization. It may not be what some individual farmers think it should be, but for the moment it is the only organized voice the farmers of Alberta have. The farmers who remain aloof have very little opportunity to make their opinions heard and known. Sure, it costs money, but just think where you would be if you were surrounded by the rough and tough rules of organized labor. You would pay on the line or else! Join up, fellows, and try and solve some of your own problems. It will stimulate your interest in public life and lift your horizons on the affairs of Canada and the world.

Novice Camper

Now I lay me down to slumber—
Humming mosquitoes the sheep outnumber;
Squirring, I pray to the Lord above:
"Take me away, like a homing dove!"
* * *

A busy farmer, waiting to place an urgent call from his home on a party-line telephone, summed up the conversation of two women saying goodbye: Much adieu about nothing.

MEMBERSHIP RECORD — OCTOBER 1956

DISTRICT	Oct. Men	To Date Men	Oct. Women	To Date Women	Oct. Assoc.	To Date Assoc.	Oct. Jr.	To Date Jrs.	To Date Total
Dist. 1	---	1487	---	428	---	---	---	249	2164
Dist. 2	---	1601	---	483	---	1	---	342	2427
Dist. 3	---	1650	---	481	---	2	---	305	2438
Dist. 4	---	2187	---	640	---	1	---	508	3336
Dist. 5	1	1572	---	568	---	4	---	403	2547
Dist. 6	---	2805	---	1188	---	10	---	694	4697
Dist. 7	2	2625	---	849	---	4	---	471	3949
Dist. 8	---	2051	---	564	---	---	---	295	2910
Dist. 9	---	2301	5	726	---	7	1	357	3391
Dist. 10	---	2715	---	677	---	16	---	286	3694
Dist. 11	3	1055	---	425	---	13	---	154	1647
Dist. 12	---	2121	---	838	---	10	---	318	3287
Dist. 13	---	718	---	256	---	5	---	98	1077
Dist. 14	39	1771	2	516	---	1	1	250	2538
TOTAL	45	26659	7	8639	---	74	2	4730	40102

FROM A POINT OF LAW:

by A. M. BROWNLEE

THE INCOME TAX ACT IN RELATION TO PROPERTY TRANSFERS FROM HUSBAND TO WIFE

In the last issue we discussed the Gift Tax provisions of the Income Tax Act and the possibility of gift tax being assessed when a husband buys property in the name of himself and his wife as joint tenants. A study of the Income Tax Act discloses further difficulties which may arise in the course of inter-family transactions, particularly between husband and wife.

Quite apart from the holding of real property in joint tenancy, it is quite common practice for husbands to use portions of their income for the purpose of creating revenue producing investments for their wives. A husband may for example, either buy stocks or bonds for his wife, or may simply give her money to buy them herself. This may be done chiefly with a view to giving a feeling of financial security. On the other hand, the husband may feel that he would rather have the income from such investments (e.g., dividends) going to his wife each year rather than being added to his annual income and increasing the income tax he must pay. Again, the husband may hope to keep his estate in the lowest possible Succession Duty bracket.

Unfortunately, the Department of National Revenue considers that the amount of income tax payable by the husband should not be lessened by such transactions. Accordingly, appropriate provisions are contained in the Income Tax Act by virtue of which the income produced from the investments held by the wife are included in the income of the husband for taxation purposes, "Not with standing the fact that the investment property is legally", the property of the wife. Section 21 (1) of the Act reads as follows:-

"Where a person has, on or after the first day of August, 1917, transferred property, either directly or indirectly, by means of a trust or by any other means whatsoever, to his spouse, or to a person who has since become his spouse, the income for a taxation year from the property or from property substituted therefor shall be deemed to be income of the transferor and not of the transferee".

The Exchequer Court has held that it is not necessary to a transfer of property from a husband to his wife that it should be made in any particular form, or that it should be made directly. All that is required is that the husband should so deal with the property as to divest himself of it and vest it in

his wife, that is to say, pass the property from himself to her. The means by which he accomplishes this result, whether direct or circuitous, may properly be called a transfer. In one case it was held that the word "transfer" is wide enough in its meaning to include a sale for value, and that where a husband sold shares to his wife, taking her promissory note for the price, the amount of dividends declared on the shares and paid to the wife was properly added to the husband's income for taxation purposes. In still another case a husband loaned to his wife sufficient money to start a business, and it was held the amount she earned from the use of this money must be attributed to her husband.

Another Section of the Income Tax Act provides, in effect, that where a husband employs his wife in his business, or where they carry on business in partnership, her wages as an employee or share of profits as a partner can be attributed to the husband and added to his income. The provisions could undoubtedly apply where husband and wife attempt to carry on farming operations in partnership.

Finally, the same rule will apply where the "transfer" is between parent and a child under 19 years of age. Thus, where a father creates an investment trust fund in favour of a child or opens a bank account for the child, the interest therefrom becomes income of the father for taxation purposes.

Sub-District Meeting at Rosyth

A sub-district committee meeting for foreman and canvassers was held at the Rosyth Hall with 55 in attendance, Mr. Albert Fossum, Sub-director, was in the chair and offered helpful suggestions for the work in general.

District Director, Mrs. Mildred G. Redman, spoke briefly on some of the achievements of the farm organizations since their inception. She stressed the importance of having the Wheat Board, floor prices on eggs, hogs and butter. She also stated that although there had been an increase in farm income recently this was in the gross income and not in the net income.

Resolutions were passed asking that action be taken to have a fairer method of grading wheat and that the spread between grades be reduced.

Everyone enjoyed the delicious lunch served by the Rosyth ladies.

"Know Your Directors"



MRS. RITA FINLAY

Mrs. Rita Finlay was born at Consort and has lived in Alberta all her life. She is a graduate in nursing of St. Joseph's Hospital in Vegreville. She and her husband, George Finlay operate an 800 acre mixed farm at Lloydminster.

Mrs. Finlay was elected F.W.U.A. director for district 7 in 1955. Besides her activities in the F.W.U.A., she is convener of publicity Committee of the Lloydminster branch of C.M.H.A. and belongs to the Registered Nurses Association. She is very interested in mental health and health education.

Sub-District 5, Dist. 12 FWUA Rally

Fifty ladies attended the sub-district 5 FWUA rally held at Arrowwood on October 24th, representing locals from Milo, Gleichen, Red Cross, Armada, Berrywater and Arrowwood.

Mrs. Margaret House was in the chair, with Mrs. B. Papp acting as secretary.

A very interesting talk on Mental Health was given by Mrs. Parslow. Mrs. Olive Douglass spoke to the group on Farm Policies in Canada, the structure of the organization and on plans for the coming convention. Miss King from the Old Sun Indian School at Gleichen spoke on the history of the Blackfoot Indians and the work being done at the school. Mrs. Ken Walker spoke on the teaching of home economics at the school and showed some of the students' sewing.

Following a talk by Mrs. B. Papp who attended the Banff Workshop for Home and School, there was an interesting discussion on the teacher shortage, high school drop-outs



MRS. MILDRED G. REDMAN

Mrs. Mildred G. Redman, F.U.A. director for District 7, was born in Olympia, Washington and came to Alberta the fall of 1907. She has had a varied life—stenographer in a bank, owner and operator of a store, owned and operated a large farm; still owns a section of land although not actively engaged in farming at the present time.

Besides her activities in the union (having been director for five years) she is active in many other organizations. She has been worthy matron of the Eastern Star three different years, a school trustee, only woman to have sat on the Hardisty town council, president of the Hardisty hospital auxiliary, secretary of the Surface Rights Association. Mrs. Redman has always taken an active part in community work such as Red Cross, First Aid, Home nursing.

She is married to Alec Redman and has one daughter and two grandchildren.

and bursaries and scholarships available to students.

Six resolutions regarding mental health, milk for school children, the contemplated sales tax, stabilization and equalization of wheat quotas, a teacher survey and assisting the Indians in their problems of re-adjustment were presented by the resolution committee and passed by the group.

A vote of thanks was extended Mrs. House at the close of the day for her work in preparing and conducting the rally.

Tea was served following the adjournment.

FWUA Section



President's Report

By Mrs. C. T. Armstrong

This newsletter is being written on the train from Sheffield to Bradford. It is a relief to leave the congested city and see farm lands and cattle. I wish all Canadian farmers could see the Scottish and English countryside, it is a real experience. The farms are neat and tidy, good grass, and fine cattle, sheep and horses. Some farms are mechanized and a few have combines. They are busy harvesting turnips and cabbage and some are doing their fall plowing.

My cousin has a purebred Shorthorn herd and has just sold 77 head. They had just had their County Farmers' Union annual meeting but I have their report and find it very interesting. Another cousin is secretary of the local. We are visiting another farm and are learning all we can about conditions here in respect to farming.

The shops have a nice variety of merchandise and the quality is good. There are many things I would like to buy but travelling by air restricts and helps to overcome this temptation. I have the opportunity of learning much about the educational system, hospitalization scheme, etc. and have visited a home for the aged and enjoyed seeing these people in such comfortable surroundings.

We will soon go to London and will be able to visit A.C.W.W. headquarters and meet our Canadian delegation.

In the next report I hope to be able to tell you more about farming in these parts.

The weather is behaving well. When the sun shines it is lovely. We have had two or three real raw days but, on the whole, we are faring very well.

Until next month — Cheerio!

F.W.U.A. Hi-Lights

As a means of raising money for the local the members of Berrywater FWUA No. 1202 (Vulcan) catered at the dinner for the Southern Alberta Municipal Conference last month. They recently were given an interesting demonstration, by the district home economist, on "Complete Oven Meals."

* * * *

Baintree FWUA local No. 1001 have been having a very busy time putting in a new cement floor in their club room and hanging new curtains. Other necessary articles are to be purchased soon.

* * * *

Horn Hill FWUA No. 1011 (Red Deer) have planned a Bake Sale to raise funds for a convention delegate. Also, they are sponsoring a contest on wild flower identification for the school children this coming year, with suitable awards offered.

* * * *

A very interesting meeting was held at Mrs. B. Pollock's home, on October 24, sponsored by Conrich F.W.U.A. No. 1007. Members of Langdon and Shepard were invited to hear Mrs. Frank Fish, president of the Canadian Club, speak to us on Indian Affairs. A turkey supper has been planned to be held at Chestermere Lake Hall on Friday, November 23, at 6:30 p.m.

* * * *

Betchton FWUA No. 1027 (Olds) report a very interesting hour spent watching the film-strip "Getting to Know You," obtained from the A.C.W.W. headquarters in London, England.

AGRICULTURE IN FINLAND

By Mr. A. W. Platt

Recently Mr. Herb Hannam, president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture, attended an executive meeting of the International Federation of Agricultural Producers in Helsinki, Finland. Some of Mr. Hannam's observations on the agriculture and farm organization in Finland are of considerable interest to Alberta farmers.

"Finland is a small country with extensive timber resources, largely pines, spruce and birch in that order of importance, and 40,000 lakes. Its farms are small with forestry work far exceeding in value and importance cultivated farm crops and livestock. The people, however, are exceptionally fine, progressive and resourceful. Certainly, their resources are modest if they make the best of them.

"On our visit to the country the farm organization took us through an area that had been occupied by the U.S.S.R. since the war. The region, about the size of one or two counties in Ontario, was taken over by the U.S.S.R. at the end of the war. For ten years it was occupied largely as a military base. About 10,000 Finns lived in it before the war and Russia made it the headquarters for 40,000 soldiers. They did not however attempt to occupy the farm homes or work the farms. The region was handed back to Finland last year. It was a strange experience to drive through very attractive farming country then, all of a sudden, come into this region with its deserted farm homes and buildings, its farm lands uncultivated and covered with weeds. After driving through this area for perhaps three quarters of an hour we emerged again into well-kept farms and attractive farmsteads. Finland with government assistance has helped the people of that region to settle various parts of their country in 1945. Now they are offering these people a chance to go back to their own farms. Many of these families have been working this summer on their own farms and repairing their buildings but no general movement of the population back to the area has yet been permitted. It will take place in the near future.

"Even in that little country of modest resources, national farm organization has around 140,000 farm members. Its annual budget amounts to something over \$100,000. About 30% of this budget is provided by individual membership contributions. The remaining 70% of the budget is provided by profits from their newspaper, owned by the National Farm Organization. This paper is printed three times a week, has about 135,000 circulation, the second

largest news circulation in Finland. Another supplementary source of revenue is obtained from around 7,000 acres of forest land which the Farm Organization purchased some years ago. Also, on our trip to the country, we visited the very attractive school buildings and property owned by the Finnish farm organization. The buildings will accommodate 50 or 60 students in comfortable rooms and classes. The architecture and grounds are very attractive and the buildings most comfortable. Incidentally, the I.F.A.P. group that visited Finland immediately following the I.F.A.P. conference at Stockholm, participated in ceremonies turning the first sod for this building in the summer of 1950. And as already mentioned the very attractive office building in which the boardroom where our I.F.A.P. executive meeting was held is owned by the National Farm Organization."

These remarks by Dr. Hannam illustrate the high importance that Finland places on its farm organization. From other reports it appears that most other western European countries place similar value on farm organization. Perhaps we, in Canada, will eventually learn that farm organization is really worth while.

TURKEY PRICES

Early in the fall three gentlemen, representing the turkey growers in the Mundare, Willingdon and Hairy Hill areas, visited Central Office in regard to the drastic decline in turkey prices. These men were W. P. Stawniczy, of Mundare, Andy Fedun, of Mundare, and Mike Lysak, also of Mundare.

The decline in turkey prices this fall is due to the expected large deliveries of Canadian turkeys as compared with a year ago, and the expected large imports of American turkeys where they also have a surplus. This would seem to be a situation in which the price support act could be put to good use. Accordingly, representations were made to the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Gardiner, and, through him, to his deputy minister, Mr. Taggart, and to Mr. Shaw, the chairman of the Price Support Board. These representations have been repeated from time to time. At the time of going to press we have had no announcement as yet from the federal government as to whether or not price supports will be put into effect on turkeys this fall. We shall continue to make representations in this regard until we get an announcement one way or the other as to their intentions.

AVERAGE COST of ELECTRIC POWER TO PRAIRIE FARMERS

Is Today Less Than $\frac{1}{3}$ what it was in 1935-39

This Didn't Just Happen

On the Other Hand

The latest Dominion Bureau of Statistics index number of commodities and services used by prairie farmers means that the \$1.40 initial payment for No. 1 Northern wheat at Fort William is worth only $63\frac{3}{4}$ cents in 1935-39 dollars. At the average country elevator point it is worth approximately 55 cents a bushel on the same basis.

In other words, it now costs prairie farmers \$2.19 to buy what \$1.00 would buy in 1935-39.

*Farmer's Cost of Production:

1935-39—100 — 1956—219.4

*Dominion Bureau of Statistics Index Numbers of Commodities and Services Used by prairie farmers.



Alberta's Electric Utility Companies are proud of the fact that, on the average electric service today costs the Alberta farmer less than one-third of the cost in 1935-39. This didn't "just happen"! It took planning, efficiency and co-operation from the farmers.



CALGARY POWER LTD.

HELPING TO BUILD A BETTER ALBERTA

Alberta People Paying Too Much For Electricity

By Henry Young

The private power interests operating in Alberta are fond of boasting that power rates in Alberta are lower than 20 years ago. Even if that is true, it does not prove that rates are as low as they should be. On the contrary we have plenty of proof that millions of dollars could be saved to the public by a different system of providing electric power.

In modern life electricity becomes more important year by year. Our civilized system of living is dependent upon an interrupted flow of power. While the farmer has been the last to lean upon electricity, almost half our Alberta farms are in that position now. This means that we must have electricity regardless of the rates charged.

For many years all the main farm organizations of Alberta have advocated a system of providing power at cost. We have seen how this has been worked out in Ontario and Manitoba where non-profit power commission distributes power at the lowest rates in Canada.

To make a comparison as to what we in Alberta are losing through depending upon private power companies we asked our auditors Messrs. Patriquin, Duncan, McClary & Co. to examine

the 1955 financial statements of the power companies operating in Alberta and give us an estimate as to the amount which could be saved each year by the use of a provincial power commission to produce and distribute electric power.

The analysis made by our auditors shows the following results:

1. The total investment by the three power companies in operation in Alberta is shown as \$88,179,627 in 1955.

2. On this investment the three companies show total net profits of \$10,375,621 after paying all expenses except interest and income taxes. This works out at 11.7% in the money invested.

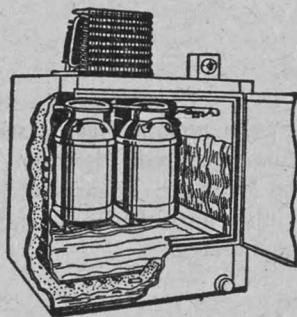
3. Since the Alberta Power Commission could have (up to this year at least) secured funds at not over 3½%, we have this comparison as made by our auditors.

Power Company profits for 1955	\$10,375,621
Interest on \$88,179,627 @ 3½%	3,086,286
Net saving to Alberta public through Power Commission	\$ 7,189,335

It is quite evident that in 1955 Alberta people could have saved themselves over \$7,000,000 by providing their own electric power through their own power commission. There are three reasons for this enormous difference. First, a power commission is not liable for federal in-

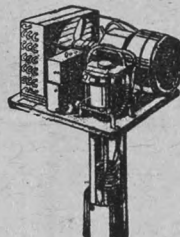
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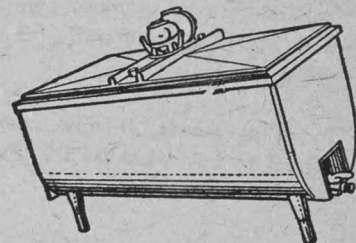


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come tax. Second, a power commission can get the necessary capital at least 1% cheaper than any private company. Third, and most important, private power companies must make profits for their shareholders.

In the case of Calgary Power the net profits to the holders of common stock in 1955 was \$8.84 per \$10.00 share. As these shares have now a book value of \$17.20 this represents a return of 51.4% in one year. The statement of Canadian Utilities shows the common shareholders' profits for 1955 as 44.4% on their actual investment. In both cases these profits are after all income taxes have been paid. These figures are from the auditors' statement.

It is interesting to note that common stock of Calgary Power originally issued at \$10.00 and with a book value now of \$17.20 was recently quoted on the stock exchange at \$64.50 per share.

These facts show that the people of Alberta as a whole are being taken to the cleaners to provide unnecessary profits on electric power. The question is, how much longer are we going to tolerate this state of affairs? Farmers have a particular stake in this matter, as the power costs of most of the urban people are charged back to the farmer in the price of goods and services. Then too, Alberta farmers are compelled to pay the whole cost of rural power lines. Of course it is claimed that farmers get power at cost under the 2c rate. However we have never received any proof that this is actual cost.

Investigation by the F.U.A. Power Committee shows that the present rates for electric power have been set by the power companies without any proof of actual costs. These rates have been automatically okayed by the Board of Public Utilities because no one demanded that the companies justify them. The claim made by the spokesmen of the companies that the Board has okayed the fairness of their rates after investigation, is false and misleading.

It has been suggested that the F.U.A. should start action before the Board of Public Utilities and demand a reduction in power rates. I question if we would get the results we want that way. As long as we have private interests in the power business extra costs must be charged. As the power business expands, the toll will increase from year to year. The real remedy is power at cost. This can only be provided by a non-profit power commission.

This question should never be allowed to become a matter of political party controversy. In the other Canadian Provinces governments of four different parties are providing power at cost through public power commissions. We can do the same here.

The farmers of Alberta should redouble

their demands for power at cost. Efforts should be made to enlist the support of other groups of citizens as it is to the common interest of all. The importance of this power question to the people of Alberta is growing as the years roll by. It will never be settled until it is settled right.

Open Forum

Letters for publication from members and subscribers only in The Open Forum must be brief. Pen names may be used if desired, but the pen name of the sender must accompany the letter. **A recent Board of Directors' ruling limits letters to 300 words** and those longer cannot be accepted. Readers are asked to observe this change. The F.U.A. does not endorse or accept any responsibility for opinions expressed under this heading.

9718 - 101st St.,
Edmonton, Alta.

The Editor,
The Organized Farmer.

Dear Sir:

Having read Mr. Pritchard's letter, Open Forum—Sept. 9th, re the need of adult education. He quotes from the Country Guide as to the need for adult education "in order that democracy may meet the problems of these changing times, all of which," he goes on to say, "leads me to speculate on what the future has in store for our F.U.A. There is a need for adult education in rural Alberta and this has been recognized in a sporadic and inadequate way by leadership courses." And further on, "I visualize the board member of the future as a university graduate trained for a full time job." And, again, "We have practically the same form of organization as existed in 1905."

Yes, Mr. Pritchard, and, judging by your letter throughout, the same ideas. However, some of us who farmed throughout those years found that the education we needed related to knowledge our schools and universities do not deal with and that the urbanites were no wiser than we were.

You will understand what I mean if I say politics are not taught in our schools or universities better, probably, than if I was to say that the scientific theory of political economy is kept out of our educational system. And as for having university trained leaders even if they were trained in regard to the scientific principles of political economy, their job would be to educate the rank and file, to arm them with the knowledge they need in order to understand what is being done and what is to be done or should be done.

Such are the ingredients of democracy.
A. J. MacDonald

F.W.U.A. Rally at Pincher Creek

Mrs. Margaret House was guest speaker at a rally held October 29th at Pincher Creek. Mrs. B. McGlynn of Chinook local was chairman and welcomed the members and guests.

The secretary for each local was called upon to report on her local's activities.

Mrs. House in her address spoke of F.U.A. week, of resolutions which were passed at another rally and read a paper "Concerning Women under the Law." She urged all ladies to bring the topics to the attention of their local. In closing she urged all to send their full quota of delegates to the annual convention and asked for pieces of handicraft for display and sale.

The entertainment committee served a delicious lunch at the close of the business meeting.

ARE YOU BUYING A WINTER COAT?

By Mrs. V. Macdonald

Are you considering the purchase of a cozy fur-like coat to keep you toast warm on the cold winter days ahead? If so, do you know what you are buying and have you considered the important factors in the care of these lustrous fur-like coats.

At present, the three most common orlon-dynel brands on the market include (as a rule in order of cost):

Borg—100% orlon, knitted back;
Borgana—65% orlon, 35% dynel—also knitted back.

Cloud No. 9—65% dynel and 35% orlon pile face with a woven back—the more expensive and richer in appearance.

These coats are comfortable to wear, light in weight, and warm. Before wear and cleaning they are soft, lustrous and fur-like. With wear they have a tendency to lose some of the luster and become slightly tufted. This should not affect the warmth.

Is it a long coat you are considering? Do you plan to give it constant wear? Then perhaps the new darker shades might be more serviceable. It will not show soil marks as readily as a lighter shade, and will be more easily cared for.

Although not as warm, "shorties" are comfortable to wear in a car—and there is little danger of the pile flattening due to continued sitting. Snugly styled sleeves also lend themselves to comfort in a car—especially if you are the driver. Since fur-like fabrics do not "drape" like fur—narrower tailored styles are more attractive and practical than the bulky, full, and flared styles.

With regard to cleaning, manufacturers usually recommend using the fur cleaning method. However, providing the coat is not excessively tufted, it may be cleaned by a reliable dry cleaner, using the Canadian Research Institute of Launderers and Cleaners recommended method. When considerable tufting has occurred, the garment should be cleaned by a furrier. Even then, tufting may remain. It is doubtful that the coat's original appearance will be restored.

The important thing is—don't allow the coat to become soiled, especially if it is one of the lighter shades. The



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same care should be taken as if it were a luxurious fur coat. If it becomes damp, it must be hung up carefully to dry. Then brush lightly with a soft brush. This light brushing may also remove slightly soiled spots.

Before you buy a coat, be certain it is what you need and that the coat will fulfill its purpose with a minimum of cleaning and care.

Home Economics Extension Service,
Department of Agriculture.

FARM FORUM NOTES

Alberta Farm Forum held a very successful workshop at the Banff School of Fine Arts on November 7, 8, and 9. Twenty Forum members and visitors took part in the program and, while the committee would have welcomed more, the work did not suffer because of numbers.

The Rural Leadership course was on at the same time and Mrs. Olive Douglass, First Vice-president of the F.W.U.A., who was attending that course took part in Farm Forum whenever the time permitted. Mrs. Hazel Stevenett, a Past director of the F.W.U.A., also took an active part.

Those present asked the Farm Forum Council to plan another workshop at about the same time for next year, and urged that it be announced at once so that Forums could give thought to sponsoring some of their members.

Floyd Griesbach and Jim McFall, National and Provincial Secretaries, were also able to spend some time with the Leadership students.

On November 19 the Farm Forum discussion will deal with the topic, "The Soil Bank Idea" — is a soil bank the answer to farm surpluses and soil conservation? Can surpluses be stored in the soil? This topic should be of particular interest to all farmers and anyone requesting additional information may contact the Alberta Farm Forum Office, 507 McLeod Building, Edmonton.

Twenty-eight old groups have been re-organized thus far, along with one new Forum. Interest established at the Leadership Course and the Farm Forum Workshop should bring in many new ones.

Forum opinions on the topic, "School Milk," are now available. A decided majority say that milk provided to school children would be a good thing. As to the cost of such a program, the Forums say that it should be shared. The majority

agree that the parents should pay the larger share but that a system of support be worked out that would include the provincial and local governments.

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FUA Junior Page

LEADERSHIP COURSE AT BANFF

by AUBREY MARLER

The seventh annual short course in leadership techniques was held in Banff, Alberta, Oct. 29 to Nov. 9, 1956. This short course, the only one of its kind in Alberta and possibly in Canada, was attended by some twenty seven young people representing farm and church groups from all parts of Alberta. Arriving by car on Sunday afternoon and evening, they were soon settled in the chalets at the famous Banff School of Fine Arts.

Monday morning saw the start of two very busy weeks of lectures, films and practical demonstrations. Lecturers from the Department of Extension, University of Alberta, various farm organizations, the Calgary Herald, National Farm Forum, Department of Agriculture and other organizations spent from one to several days at the school working with the students.

The students each had a five minute speech, introductions, toasts, and thank yous to make before groups of fellow students throughout the course. Morning classes were spent on lectures, panel discussions, interviews and speech practising. Afternoons were spent listening to tape recordings of the mornings speeches and criticisms of them. One of the main afternoon classes was taken in social and recreation periods when games and contests for parties and picnics were taught and practised. Right after the evening meal, the class gathered to read their Calgary Heralds, clip articles and give a critical analysis of the paper. Following this was time for preparation of assignments, but much of it was often spent in sing songs, visits to the Hot Springs and other social activities.

Demonstrations of a Co-op Annual Business meeting and of a Jr. F.U.A. Local Meeting were held during the course. These gave practical training in parliamentary procedure and the other duties of carrying on a general or executive meeting as all the students took part in these activities. The students called a meeting of their own to discuss differences that came up from time to time. A student council was formed with the election of a President and four advisors and handled the main student problems.

It was quite a change for most of the young people at this short course to be able to sit in the classrooms and lounges and look out on the towering Rocky Mountains. Small herds of elk, moose and deer were often within a few feet of the walks as they grazed on the lawns around the chalets and of course the bears found it hard to stay away from the kitchen doors.

This leadership course can be highly recommended, it has much to offer any young person interested in community leadership and is two weeks that will never be forgotten in the lives of those who have attended it.

DEAN LIEN, JR. 1st VICE-PRESIDENT MARRIES

Miss Dorothy Olsen, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. M. C. Olsen of Veteran, became the bride of Mr. Dean Lien, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. B. Lien of Warner at a ceremony performed by Rev. Arne Burstad in Trinity Lutheran church, Calgary.

Dean and his bride will both be on the teaching staff of the Fairview School of Agriculture this year.

Bronze and gold chrysanthemums banked the altar, to which the bride was escorted by her father. The bride had made her own gown of white imported French metallic brocade, styling it with boat neckline, lily point sleeves and low waistline. She wore filegrands earrings, handmade in Norway and carried a white Bible surmounted with a white orchid and garlanded with stephanotis.

Mrs. P. Wolfe of Edmonton was her sister's matron of honor and Miss Jess Cashore of Lethbridge was bridesmaid.

Mr. Richard Barton of Lethbridge and Mr. John Moreland of Wrentham attended the groom.

We wish Dean and Dorothy every happiness in the future.



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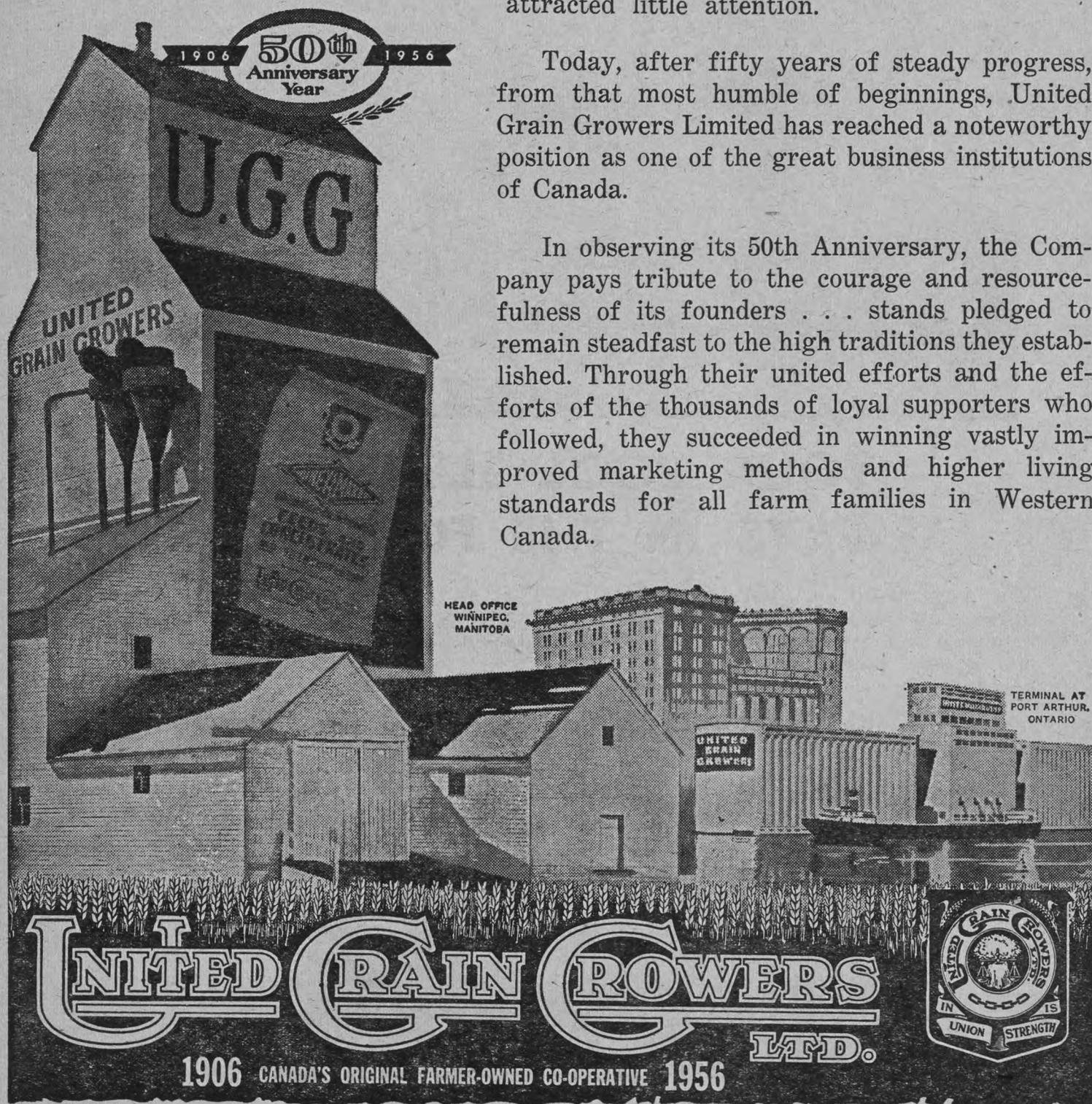
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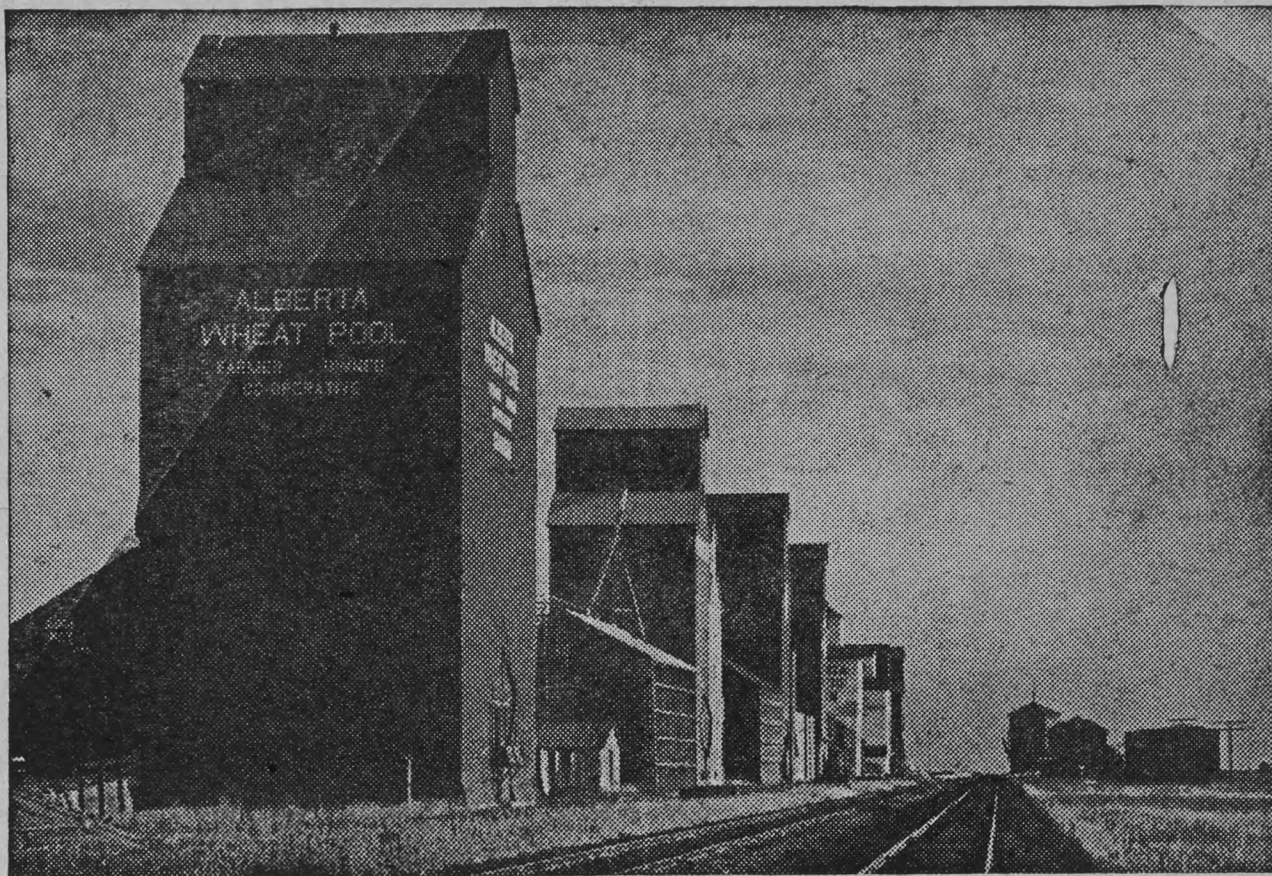
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